



An outreach worker conducts HIV testing in a drug den in Mombasa County. Those found HIV-positive are linked to care immediately. All people who use and inject drugs benefit from a comprehensive package of services for HIV prevention. Photo credit: USAID

KENYA

HIV COMBINATION PREVENTION, TREATMENT, AND CARE FOR PEOPLE WHO USE AND INJECT DRUGS

Kenya has an estimated 1.5 million people living with HIV. The HIV epidemic is concentrated among key populations, including people who use and inject drugs (PWU/ID). There are an estimated 27,014 PWU/ID in Kenya, with an HIV prevalence of 18 percent compared to 4.9 percent in the general population. In 2008, about 3.8 percent of all new adult infections were attributed to injecting drugs. With little access to health services and poor adherence to treatment, mortality among PWU/ID was high.

In 2014, Kenya's Ministry of Health with technical assistance from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and financial support from the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief through USAID initiated an HIV combination prevention, treatment, and care program with the goal of reducing HIV infections and deaths among PWU/ID in Kenya by enhancing access to comprehensive HIV prevention care and support.

OUR WORK

The project is designed to achieve the following key results:

- Coordination and review of national policy, strategies, and guidelines to enhance PWU/ID access to evidence-based interventions.
- Increased access to a comprehensive PWU/ID package of HIV prevention, care, and support.
- Strengthened support from policy makers and the community for PWU/ID HIV prevention interventions.
- Improved national capacity to monitor and evaluate PWU/ID programs.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Since it started in 2014, the HIV combination prevention, treatment, and care program has supported:

- the enrollment of 3,411 PWU/ID in medically assisted therapy (MAT), with over 80 percent actively accessing services.
- HIV testing for over 10,000 PWU/ID, with 663 HIV-positive PWU/ID identified and linked to antiretroviral therapy treatment and prevention services in MAT clinics.
- the establishment of a national monitoring and reporting system for MAT.
- the initiation of five MAT sites in Mombasa, Kilifi, Kwale, and Lamu, with four dispensing sites.
- the economic empowerment of over 40 percent of MAT clients through vocational training and linkage to job opportunities and income-generating activities.
- capacity building for civil society organizations to offer comprehensive harm reduction services to PWU/ID.
- the COVID-19 response through procurement of essential personal protective equipment for MAT health care workers and MAT clients.
- the establishment of technical working groups at national and county levels for coordination.
- the development of key national guidelines and policy documents including OST and NSP guidelines, a MAT training package, and rights-based and health-oriented training materials on HIV and harm reduction for law enforcement agencies.
- the transition of PWU/ID service delivery to county health departments and improvement of the technical capacity of national authorities to monitor and guide the national programme.

BUDGET: USD \$9,022,017

DURATION

2014-2021

ACTIVITY LOCATIONS

National, with direct implementation in Mombasa, Kilifi, Kwale and Lamu Counties

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER

UNODC

KEY PARTNERS

- Ministry of Health (NASCO, NACC, PPB)
- Ministry of Interior (NACADA, County Commissioners, Judiciary, Law Enforcement)
- County Departments for Health
- Civil Society Organizations

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